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## FL HEALTH IN PINELLAS RECOGNIZES THE 2018 EMPLOYEE AND NURSE OF THE YEAR

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Joan Miller and Christina Levy were recognized by the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) as the 2018 Employee of the Year and the 2018 Nurse of the Year at an all-staff training on Monday, Oct. 15.

Both were selected based on nominations from their peers for their exemplary service to the public and their ability to go above and beyond their normal duties to support the health department's mission.

Each year, DOH-Pinellas employees are faced with the task of selecting the 12 Employees of the Month, which determine the Employee of the Year, and the Nurse of the Year. This task is challenging because so many of the employees who serve at DOH-Pinellas are passionate about making a difference in the lives of Pinellas County residents and visitors.

Joan Miller, Social Services Counselor with the Maternal and Child Health Healthy Start Home Visiting program, was named the 2018 Employee of the Year after scoring the highest among the year's 12 Employees of the Month. Miller has been with the agency for nearly 29 years and she is considered a "boots-on-the-ground" employee. One employee wrote, "She helps clients realize their voice; pushing them to advocate for themselves."

Miller represents the Healthy Start Federal Project at national conferences as the voice of the Pinellas community and is an advocate for continued funding for client services. The Healthy Start Federal grant requires 500 client contracts annually. Miller completed 916 for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Christina Levy, Registered Nurse Specialist for the Clinical Health Services division and Care Coordinator at the Mid-County site, was selected based on comments by her peers such as this one: "Chrissy is always at work with an inviting smile and genuinely warm welcome to staff and clients alike. Her kind and compassionate spirit is contagious and many clients make their way to her office just to say hello and to be on the receiving end of her smile."



Joan Miller was recognized as the 2018 DOH-Pinellas Employee of the Year.



Christina Levy was recognized as the 2018 DOH-Pinellas Nurse of the Year.

“All of our nurses are dedicated and selfless, with each contributing to the overall mission of the agency by providing professional nursing expertise to our community every day,” said DOH-Pinellas Nursing Director Elizabeth Smith “This year, one nurse has stood out,” said Smith. “She’s an inspiration to her peers.”

On Oct. 15, DOH-Pinellas also recognized 12 employees who have been nominated throughout the previous fiscal year for various nominations regarding their performance in areas that include teamwork, morale building, productivity and accountability, dedication, courtesy, efficiency, contribution to quality of work and customer service:

July 2017, Valerie Doss-Poole, Administrative Secretary, Clinical Health Services

August 2017, Richele Fitzgerald, Senior Clerk, Clinical Health Services

September 2017, Lynette Schaer, Administrative Assistant, Administrative Services

October 2017, Todd Bingaman, Administrative Secretary, Clinical Health Services

November 2017, Kyle Olle, Biological Scientist, Disease Control and Health Protection

December 2017, Joan Miller, Social Services Counselor, Maternal and Child Health

January 2018, Kate Fox, Senior Community Health Nursing Supervisors, Maternal and Child Health

February 2018, Kelly Clay, Staff Assistant, Maternal and Child Health

March 2018, Berta Coutin, Human Service Analyst, Community Health and Performance Management

April 2018, Christina Levy, Registered Nurse Specialist, Clinical Health Services

May 2018, Kevin Rosado Gracia, Computer Programmer Analyst, Information Technology

June 2018, Audrey Beaton, Staff Assistant, Community Health and Performance Management

For more information about DOH-Pinellas, go to [www.PinellasHealth.com](http://www.PinellasHealth.com) or follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyPinellas](https://twitter.com/HealthyPinellas).

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